



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

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*Executive Director*

### Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MARY ANN WRIGHT  
*Acting Division Director*

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*Governor*

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

February 1, 2005

Mr. Lon Thomas  
Star Stone Quarries  
4040 South 300 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84107

Subject: Release Requirements, Star Stone Quarries, Santa Barbara Mine, S/013/006, Duchesne County, Utah

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you for your 2004 annual report received by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining January 31, 2005. In the report, you state, "This mine is completely reclaimed, and its file should be closed."

I inspected the site on May 20 and October 26, 2004, for the purpose of determining whether there was adequate vegetation for it to be released. At neither time did it meet the release criterion of having 70 percent of the premining vegetation ground cover (R647-3-109.13.11). In the report for the October inspection, I suggested that portions of the area be scarified and reseeded or that the area at least be seeded and raked.

I assume the existing perennial vegetation will continue to grow and may eventually reach the standard for release. I will continue to periodically visit the site and check to see if the vegetation meets this standard, but until then, or until the Division can make a determination that revegetation work has been done within practical limits, we cannot release the site.

Please feel free to contact me if you need further information or if you have questions about this letter. I can be reached by telephone at 801-538-5261 or by electronic mail at [paulbaker@utah.gov](mailto:paulbaker@utah.gov).

Sincerely,

Paul B. Baker  
Reclamation Biologist  
Minerals Regulatory Program

PBB:jb

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